— 16 new Central and Engineering colleges are proposed in Central Universities. In addition 11 Medical and Engineering colleges are being proposed in the new Central Universities, 05 Medical and Engineering Colleges are also proposed in 14 World Class Central Universities.

(c) Does not arise;

Commercialization of education

352. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is encouraging commercialization of education which is against the interest of common man; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The present National Policy on Education is against commercialization of education. Several pronouncements of the Supreme Court of India have also cautioned against commercialization of education, even though reasonable surplus for institutional development are permissible.

Assistance for Rural Public Schools

353. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the status of the proposal of Andhra Pradesh Government requesting the Union Government to provide Rs. 700 crores towards its share of 25 per cent of non-recurring cost to set up Rural Public Schools in each of 290 assembly constituencies of the State;

(b) the complete details of the proposal;

(c) the reasons for delay in sanctioning it; and

(d) by when it is likely to be given clearance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (d) The proposal of the State Government of Andhra Pradesh relates to establishment of 300 residential, co-educational English medium schools having classes 6 to 12 through Public-Private Partnership with at least one school in each of the Assembly Constituencies in the State. As per the proposal, land for establishing the schools is to provided by the State Government free of cost, whereas the capital cost is to be met by the private provider and the recurring cost is to be shared between the State Government and the private provider. There is no scheme in this Ministry at present under which this proposal for assistance towards part of non-recurring cost of the school building can be met by the Central Government.

Setting up of IIT and IISER in Kerala

354. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Kerala has submitted a proposal for setting up an IIT and an IISER in Kerala;